

doctrinal part of religion/' In the first draft of his history Burnet gave many particulars about Johnstone which are omitted in the final version.¹ His character, his political views and his influence have been made clearer by the publication of a number of his letters, now scattered through various collections but worth assembling and editing.² The difference between Johnstone and Stair was not entirely personal: what Burnet³ terms Johnstone's 'principles with relation to public liberty' enabled him to work more harmoniously with popular assemblies, and in Parliament he not only showed great skill in debate but great dexterity in the conduct of business. William dismissed him in February 1696, and Sir James Ogilvy, afterwards Earl of Seafield, became Secretary in his place, and held that office till the end of the reign. His correspondence, lately published by the Scottish History Society, is a valuable addition to our knowledge of the last years of William's reign.⁴ Johnstone had been dismissed for his part in the passing of the Act for a Company Trading to Africa and the Indies (June 26, 1695), against which the English Parliament had protested. This Act led to the attempt to found the colony at Darien, established in November 1698 and abandoned in June 1699. Macaulay's account of the inception and failure of the scheme is based mainly on the

volume of
Darien Papers edited by Hill Burton in 1849
for the
Bannatyne Club, but recent investigations
have shown
that his narrative is in many points
inaccurate. Originally

¹ Foxcroft, Supplement to Burnet, pp. 370-3, 392, 415, See
also pp. 542-4,
Additional Note on Burnet's Original Account of Scotch
Affairs after the
Revolution.

² See Hope Johnstone MSS., Marchmont MSS.,
Buccleuch MSS. at
Montagu House, vol. ii, and Hamilton MSS.

^s Supplement, p. 415.

* Seafleld Correspondence from 1685 to 1708, ed. James
Grant (1912).